Recently, Minstry has formulated a centrally sponsored scheme namely 'Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)' for implementation during Eleventh Plan Period under which there is provision for setting up of State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA) to function as State level resource centre to coordinate, monitor and develop the adoption programme in the State. SARA would also liaison with District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) at district level and provide technical support to the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) in carrying out the process of rehabilitation and social reintegration of all children through, *inter alia*, in-country and inter-country adoptions.

Law of offences against children

285. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring a law on offences against children for preventing child abuse including sexual exploitation, economic exploitation, domestic violence, trafficking for prostitution etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be enacted;

(c) whether any steps in this direction have been taken by Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The provisions of the Bill are being finalized in consultation with legal experts, Government and Non-Government Institutions, experts in the field of child rights and all concerned. The Bill will be introduced in the Parliament after following the prescribed procedure.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED AND UNSTARRED QUESTIONS SET FOR THE 10TH AUGUST, 2007*

Banned injection in circulation

†*1. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Oxadicin, an injection injected to buffalo is being sold in the country despite a ban on the same;

(b) whether it is being used to increase the size of vegetable artificially by injecting it in fruit and vegetable plants in the country;

(c) if so, whether public health is being affected adversely by its use;

(d) whether Government would take strict action to prevent the sale of the said injection; and

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*The sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Friday, the 10th August, 2007 was adjourned on account of passing away of Shri Chandra Shekhar, former Prime Minister of India and ex-Member. Answers to Questions put down in the lists for that day were laid on the Table of the House on Monday, the 13th August, 2007.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) There is no information for drug Oxadicin injection used in buffalo.

(b) No authentic information and report is available regarding use of Oxadicin injection for increasing the size of vegetables artificially by injecting it in fruit and vegetable plants in the country.

(c) to (e) Question does not arise.

Employment to dependents of the victims of Mumbai blasts

*2. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dependents of the victims of suburban Mumbai rail bomb blasts of 11 July, 2006 to whom Railways have, so far, offered/given employment;

(b) the nature of jobs offered/given;

(c) whether it is a fact that even graduates and post-graduates have been offered only class IV appointments, if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether his Ministry would follow a rational policy and give at least class III appointments to graduates and post-graduates; and

(e) by when a decision thereon is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) 108 (One hundred and eight only).

(b) In Group 'D' categories.

(c) and (d) There is no provision in the rules for employment to dependents of victims of accidents/bomb blasts on the Railways in Group 'C' & 'D'. However, Railways in exception to the rules, purely as a humanitarian gesture, heve taken a decision to provide employment to the ward/legal heirs of victims of the Mumbai bomb blast case in Group 'D' categories only.

(e) Does not arise.

Increase of medical facilities

†*3.SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of major Government hospitals functioning in the country;

(b) the number of people getting medical facilities in each hospital in the country and the average of the same in Uttarakhand; and

(c) the details of the steps to be taken to increase the availability of medical facility in the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) As on 31.3.2006, 7663 hospitals with 4.92 lakhs beds were functioning in the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi